General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 98 (*f*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/56/561/Add.6)*]

56/199. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/115 of 20 December 1995, 51/184 of 16 December 1996, 52/199 of 18 December 1997 and 54/222 of 22 December 1999, its decision 55/443 of 20 December 2000 and other resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Noting that most States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified or acceded to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1]

Remaining deeply concerned that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island States, face increased risk from the negative impacts of climate change,

Noting that, to date, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] has attracted forty-five ratifications,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Morocco for hosting the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at Marrakesh, Morocco, from 29 October to 9 November 2001,

Noting the adoption of the Bonn Agreements[3] on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action[4] by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at the second part of its sixth session, held at Bonn, Germany, from 16 to 27 July 2001,

Expressing its appreciation to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for its excellent work in preparing the Third Assessment Report, and encouraging parties to make full use of the information contained therein,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[2] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3.

[3] FCCC/CP/2001/5, decision 5/CP.6.

[4] FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1, decision 1/CP.4.

Taking note of the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its sixth session[5] to approve the continuation of the current institutional linkage of the secretariat of the Convention to the United Nations and related administrative arrangements for a further five-year period, to be reviewed by both the General Assembly and the Conference of the Parties no later than 31 December 2006,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the continuation of the institutional linkage of the secretariat of the Convention to the United Nations,[6]

Taking note further of the decision of the Conference of the Parties[5] inviting the General Assembly to decide at its fifty-sixth session on the question of meeting the conference-servicing expenses of the Convention from its regular budget, taking into account the views expressed by Member States,

Noting that, by paragraph (*c*) of its decision 55/443, it decided to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2002–2003 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for the biennium, in accordance with the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[7] which was prepared in response to the invitation of the General Assembly in paragraph (*d*) of its decision 55/443,

1. *Recalls* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8] in which heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[2] preferably by the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002, and to embark on the required reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases, and calls upon States to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;[1]

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to continue to take effective steps to implement their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

3. *Stresses* the importance of capacity-building, as well as of developing and disseminating innovative technologies in respect of key sectors of development, in particular energy, and of investment in that regard, including through private sector involvement, market-oriented approaches and supportive public policies, as well as international cooperation, emphasizes that climate change and its adverse impacts have to be addressed through cooperation at all levels, and welcomes the efforts of all parties to implement the Convention;

4. *Takes note* of the Marrakesh Accords,[9] adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its seventh session, complementing the Bonn Agreements[3] on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,[4] paving the way for the timely entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol;

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[5] FCCC/CP/2001/5, decision 6/CP.6.

[6] A/56/385.

[7] See A/56/509.

[8] See resolution 55/2.

[9] See FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Marrakesh Ministerial Declaration,[9] adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session as a contribution to the preparatory process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

6. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to and the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity[10] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa[11] and other international instruments related to the environment and sustainable development, as well as relevant organizations, especially the United Nations Environment Programme, including, as appropriate, the involvement of the Environmental Management Group, to continue their work for enhancing mutual complementarities with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in the implementation of those conventions at the international, regional and national levels and to report thereon to their respective conferences of the parties;

7. *Approves* the continuation of the institutional linkage of the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to the United Nations, and related administrative arrangements, for a further five-year period;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the functioning of that institutional linkage not later than 31 December 2006, in consultation with the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

9. *Invites* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

10. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

90th plenary meeting
21 December 2001

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[10] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.